

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR ACCESSING AND TREATING BODY LUMENS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Access to blood vessels and other body lumens is provided from spaced-apart
access penetrations. A penetrating device is introduced through a first access penetration to a
target site within the body lumen and then used to penetrate outwardly from the body lumen
to an external surface on an organ or the patient's skin. A guidewire may then be deployed
through the penetrating device, and the penetrating device removed to leave the guidewire in
10 place. Catheters and other interventional and diagnostic devices may then be introduced to
the target site from either or both of the first and second access penetrations over the same
guidewire.

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